New York, New York Public Library, Spencer Collection, NYPL Spencer 017

Description: ff. iii + 189 + ii - 18th century full red morocco, gilt, by Derome le jeune, with his binder's ticket. The date on the spine (du 13 au 14 siecle) is in error. - Made for Jean de Rohan. Cardinal Charles de Bourbon; Guyon de Sardière; duc de La Vallière; comte de Mac-Carthy; De Bure; Joseph Barrois; Earl of Ashburnham; Thomas Belin; Wouter Nijhoff; Susan Minns. Bought for Spencer, 1925. - De Ricci, 1338. Dictionary Catalog, Spencer Collection, 902. Maxwell Walkley, "Jean Gerson's 'Exemplaire des petits enfants,' a 'scripted object' preserved in Spencer Ms. 17", Parergon13.2 (Jan. 1996), 151-63. - Jonathan J. G. Alexander, James H. Marrow and Lucy Freeman Sandler, The Splendor of the Word: Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at the New York Public Library(London / Turnhout: The New York Public Library / Harvey Miller Publishers, 2005) n. 96.

Acknowledgments: - We thank Prof. James H. Marrow for his extensive work towards the present description of this manuscript.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 14

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/NYPLSpencer017_42

Language: French French; Latin *Country:* Belgium *Century:* 15th

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Part 1: ff. 1-189v

Description: - Parchment - 380 x 275 mm - Ruled in red or violet ink. Prickmarks and catchwords visible. Quaternions are the norm.

Country: Belgium
Cardinal point:
Region: Brabant
City: Brussels
Assigned Date: s. XV^{med}
Searchable Date Range: 1440 - 1460
Dated by scribe: No
Inscribed Date:
Document: No
Number of Scribes: ;2: A, ff. 1-126v; B, ff. 127-186
Script: Ba^tarde

Artist(s): Master of Johannes Gielemans

Figurative Decoration: Seven miniatures, one at the beginning of each treatise.

Other Decoration: Floreate borders around miniatures.

Notes: Produced between 1456 and 1461, when Jean de Rohan was in exile in Genappe, south of Brussels, with the dauphin, the future Louis XI. The miniaturist has also been called the Master of Fernando de Lucena. Latin

Number of Texts: 7

Text 1: ff. 1-56

Author: Boethius

Other Associate: Jean de Meun, author of prologue

Title: De consolation

Title: Cy commence le livre intitule boece de consolacion. Translate de latin en francoys pour le roy de france appelle philippe le quart de ce nom. Par maistre Jehan de meun reverend docteur en la Sainte page de theologie.

Language(s): French

Explicit: O vous mortelz, quant vous faictez voz euvres devant les yeulx de cellui juge qui tout voit

Notes: An anonymous verse-prose translation, with gloss, incorporating the prologue of Jean de Meun.

f. 1 Scribal hand A. Prologue to Boethius, with miniature of the Wheel of Fortune. Collection of the Cardinal Charles de Bourbon, archbishop of Rouen, with inventory number; paraphe of the Cha^teau d'Anet; ownership note of Guyon de Sardie`re.

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f. 3 Opening of first book of Boethius; decorative top-line ascenders with pen flourished cadelles, flowers, half fleurs-de-lis (and sometimes, grotesque faces).

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f. 56 Explicit of text.

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Text 2: ff. 57-87

Author: Hugh of Balma?

Title: Voye purgative, illuminative et unitive

Language(s): French; Latin

Incipit: Vie syon lugent eo quod non sit qui vadat ad solemnitatem. Combien que Ieremie le prophete deist ces parolles en plourant sans cesse la chetivete de son peuple.

Notes: This French translation of the Theologia mystica(also known as De triplici via is mainly attributed to Hugh of Balma, although it was previously seen as a work of St. Bonaventure.

f. 57 Jeremiah alone at prayer before an altar with open book and scroll; men in the background pray to an idol. Here (and at opening initial of other texts), the arms of Jean de Rohan, seigneur de Montauban (1412-1466) for whom the book was made.

View image

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f. 58v Opening of "La voye purgative."

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f. 61v Opening of "La voye illuminative."

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f. 69 Opening of "La voye unitive."

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Text 3: ff. 87-104v

Author: Jean de Fe'camp

Title: Contemplacions Saint Augustins

Title: Cy commencent les contemplacions saint augustin.

Language(s): French

Incipit: Pour ce que nous sommes mis ou milieu des las de legier nous nous refroidons des desirs celestieux

Notes: This is the French translation of the pseudo-Augustinian text known as the Speculumor the Manuale

f. 87 Augustine in his bedroom and study contemplating a vision of the Virgin and Child.

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Text 4: ff. 105-112

Title: Hystoire du miroir du corps et de l'ame

Title: Cy commence l'ystoire du miroir du corps et de l'ame.

Language(s): French

Incipit: A l'onneur et gloire et a la loange de dieu et de toute la benoite trinite et au proffit et au sauvement de toutes les ames qui sont par especial baptizees en la foy de Ihesu crist pour qui dieu veult estre depries pour leur souvement.

Notes: The text is sometimes associated with Pierre de la Brosse, and is sometimes entitled Des regles de la perfection

f. 105 Allegory of Body and Soul, with an old woman holding up a mirror that reflects the image of the elegantly dressed woman standing nearby, as Death hovers in the air above the two.

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f. 112v Explicit of text; second column left blank.

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Text 5: ff. 113-120v

Title: Dyaloge du pere et du filz

Title: Cy commence le dyaloge du pere et du filz.

Language(s): French

Incipit: Beau filz nous savons bien que ce monde et ceste mortele vie ne fauldra mie devant ce que antecrist soit venu en cestui monde en sa propre personne.

f. 113 A father, with an open book on a lectern beside him, instructs his son.

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f. 120v Explicit of text, with second column left blank.

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Text 6: ff. 121-126v

Author: Jean Gerson

Title: Exemplaire des petis enfans

Title: Cy sensuit l'exemplaire des petis enfans.

Language(s): French

Incipit: Venes petis enfans oyes bel exemplaire contenans bons enseignemens et choses merveilleuses sans fable et sans menconge.

Notes: Maxwell Walkley argues that this piece is the unique and otherwise lost work of Jean Gerson (1363-1429; Chancellor of the University of Paris from 1395), written ca. 1400-01.

f. 121 The interior of a schoolroom with seated teacher holding a bundle of rods, and a number of standing elegantly dressed young boys, who appear to hold hockey sticks; books and scrolls rest on high shelves.

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Text 7: ff. 127-126

Author: Christine de Pizan

Title: Livre du corps de la pollicie

Language(s): French

Incipit: Se il est possible que de vice puist naistre vertu. Bien me plaist en ceste partie estre passionnee comme femme.

f. 127 Scribal hand B. A Pope flanked by clergy, nobility and the bourgeoisie, with a large open book resting on a cushion on the floor.

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